



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

lcv
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/043,752	01/09/2002	Victor F. Petrenko	392150	7273
7590	02/11/2004			EXAMINER PASCHALL, MARK H
Thomas Swenson Lathrop & Gage L.C. Suite 300 4845 Pearl East Circle Boulder, CO 80301			ART UNIT 3742	PAPER NUMBER
			DATE MAILED: 02/11/2004	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/043,752	PETRENKO
	Examiner	Art Unit

1-1

Mark H Paschall	3742
-----------------	------

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTO-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to _____.
 2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-33.
 3. The drawings filed on 01-09-02 are accepted by the Examiner.
 4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some* c) None of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * Certified copies not received: _____.
5. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
 - (a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
 6. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

7. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8. CORRECTED DRAWINGS must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No. _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed _____, which has been approved by the Examiner.
 - (c) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet.
9. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449), Paper No. _____.
 Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material

- Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
 Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. _____.
 Examiner's Amendment/Comment
 Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
 Other

Mark Paschall
Primary Examiner

M.Paschall

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-33 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art of record does not teach the method and system for melting ice using a gas filled layer around an electrical conductor, generating an alternating electric field around the conductor and forming a plasma by energizing the gas via the alternating electric field.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

\Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Jones, Cordarol, Miller et al and Gerardi et al are cited for disclosing ice-melting systems.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark H Paschall whose telephone number is 703 308-1642. The examiner can normally be reached on 7am - 3pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ehud Gartenberg can be reached on 703 308-2634. The fax phone

Art Unit: 3742

number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703)
872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or
proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703 308-
0861.

M H Paschall
Mark H Paschall
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3742

mp